UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/839,444	04/23/2001	Frederic M. Newman	016	4848

7590 09/11/2002

ROBERT J. HARTER
4233 CLIFFSIDE DRIVE
LA CROSSE, WI 54601

EXAMINER
LE, TOAN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2862	

DATE MAILED: 09/11/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/839,444	Applicant(s) NEWMAN, FREDERIC M.
	Examiner Toan M Le	Art Unit 2862

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on th cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *23 April 2001* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

Claims 1-2, 4, and 6-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Newman.

Referring to claim 1, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, comprising: storing a well file at a first computer, wherein the well file includes information about the plurality of components of the well (col. 6, lines 38-42; figure 6); transporting a second computer to the well site (figure 6); providing a wireless communication link between the first computer and the second computer (figure 6); communicating the well file from the first computer to the second computer through the wireless communication link (col. 6, lines 43-46; figure 6); changing one of the plurality of components of the well at the well site; inputting into the second computer a well file change that documents the steps of changing one of the plurality of components of the well (col. 1, lines 58-60; col. 2, lines 11-18 and lines 49-54; and col. 3, lines 11-15 and 41-45); and making the well file change on the second computer accessible to the first computer through the wireless communication link (figure 6).

As to claim 2, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, further comprising causing an instrument to sense a part identifier of a component added to the well at the well site, wherein the part identifier is associated with a digital identification value; inputting the digital

identification value into the second computer; and using the digital identification value as part of the well file change (col. 3, lines 11-15 and 23-45).

Referring to claim 4, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, wherein the digital value represents an alphanumeric name (col. 3, lines 34-38).

As to claim 6, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, wherein the plurality of components includes cement (col. 2, line 64).

Referring to claim 7, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, wherein the plurality of components includes an acid (col. 3, lines 10-11).

As to claim 8, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, wherein the plurality of components includes a sucker rod (col. 2, line 50).

Referring to claim 9, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, wherein the plurality of components includes tubing (col. 2, line 51).

As to claim 10, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, further comprising accessing the well file from the well site by entering a well site identifier into the second computer (col. 3, lines 62-67).

Referring to claim 11, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, wherein the step of entering a well site identifier into the second computer is performed by selecting from a plurality of well site identifiers displayed on the second computer (col. 4, 13-14; figure 1).

As to claim 12, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, further comprising entering into the second computer a company identifier that helps a company involved in changing one of the plurality of components of the well (col. 5, lines 31-39).

Referring to claim 13, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, further comprising updating the well file by incorporating the well file change into the well file (col. 6, lines 38-42).

As to claim 14, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, wherein the well file change includes a digital identification value that helps identify which one of the plurality of components is being changed (col. 3, lines 23-34).

Referring to claim 15, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, wherein the well file change includes a date that helps identify when one of the plurality of components is being changed (col. 3, lines 53-55).

As to claim 16, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, comprising: storing a well

file at a first computer, wherein the well file includes information about the plurality of components of the well (col. 6, lines 38-42; figure 6); transporting a second computer to the well site (figure 6); providing a wireless communication link between the first computer and the second computer (figure 6); communicating the well file from the first computer to the second computer through the wireless communication link (col. 6, lines 43-46; figure 6); accessing the well file from the well site by entering a well site identifier into the second computer (col. 3, lines 62-67); entering into the second computer a company identifier that helps a company involved in changing one of the plurality of components of the well (col. 5, lines 34-39); changing one of the plurality of components of the well at the well site; entering into the second computer a well file change that documents the step of changing one of the plurality of components of the well, wherein the well file change includes a digital identification value that helps identify which one of the plurality of component is being changed (col. 1, lines 58-60; col. 2, lines 11-18 and lines 49-54; and col. 3, lines 11-15 and 41-45); making the well file change on the second computer accessible to the first computer through the wireless communication link (figure 60; and updating the well file by incorporating the well file change into the well file (col. 6, lines 38-42).

Referring to claim 17, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, wherein the well file change includes a date that helps identify when one of the plurality of components is being changed (col. 3, lines 53-55).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 5, and 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Newman.

Referring to claims 3 and 5, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, wherein the well identifier is a bar code (col. 4, lines 1-2) and wherein the instrument senses the well identifier by way of an electromagnetic field (col. 6, lines 50-53).

Newman does not disclose the part identifier is a bar code and the part identifier is sensed by way of an electromagnetic field.

However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have had a bar code for the part identifier, which is sensed by way of an electromagnetic field for easy storing and accessing the parts digitally to monitor and control the inventory.

As to claim 18, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, comprising: storing a well file at a first computer, wherein the well file includes information about the plurality of components of the well (col. 6, lines 38-42; figure 6); transporting a second computer to the well site (figure 6); providing a wireless communication link between the first computer and the second computer (figure 6); communicating the well file from the first computer to the second

computer through the wireless communication link (col. 6, lines 43-46; figure 6); changing one of the plurality of components of the well at the well site; entering into the second computer information that indicates the steps of changing one of the plurality of components of the well at the well site (col. 1, lines 58-60; col. 2, lines 11-18 and lines 49-54; and col. 3, lines 11-15 and 41-45); displaying on the second computer an access code of a limited useful life in response to entering into the second computer information that indicates that the step of changing one of the plurality of components of the well at the well site, wherein the access code allows the well file to be changed within the limited useful life of the access code; with the aide of the access code, changing the well file to reflect the step of changing one of the plurality of components of the well; and terminating the limited useful life of the access code after changing the well file (col. 5, lines 31-39).

Newman does not disclose a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, comprising: witnessing the step of changing one of the plurality of components of the well at the well site.

However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included witnessing the step of changing one of the plurality of components of the well at the well site for having a better security measurement to prevent unauthorized access into the system.

Referring to claim 19, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, comprising: storing a well file at a first computer, wherein the well file includes information about the plurality of components of the well (col. 6, lines 38-42; figure 6); transporting a second computer

to the well site (figure 6); providing a wireless communication link between the first computer and the second computer (figure 6); communicating the well file from the first computer to the second computer through the wireless communication link (col. 6, lines 43-46; figure 6); accessing the well file from the well site by entering a well site identifier into the second computer (col. 3, lines 62-67); entering into the second computer a company identifier that helps identify the contractor involved in changing the component (col. 5, lines 31-39); having a contractor change a component of the plurality of components; entering into the second computer a well file change that documents the steps of having the contractor change the component of the plurality of components wherein the well file change includes a digital identification value that helps identify the component (col. 1, lines 58-60; col. 2, lines 11-18 and lines 49-54; and col. 3, lines 11-15 and 41-45); making the well file change on the second computer accessible to the first computer through the wireless communication link (figure 6); and updating the well file by incorporating the well file change into the well file (col. 6, lines 38-42).

Newman does not disclose a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site having a second contractor with a second company identifier to enter into the second computer a second well file change that documents the step of having the second contractor change the second component of the plurality of components, wherein the second well file change includes a second digital identification value that helps identify the second component.

However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have had more than one contractor at the well site to perform those

steps listed above consecutively to save time and expedite the process of well service and maintenance.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Toan M Le whose telephone number is (703)305-4016. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Lefkowitz can be reached on (703)305-4816. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)872-9318 for regular communications and (703)872-9319 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-0956.

Toan Le

September 4, 2002

EDWARD LEFKOWITZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800